

St Andrew's River Heights United Church

255 Oak Street

Council Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Rob Siddall, Karen Lumley, Bill Craddock, Glenn Neufeld, Leigh Harris-Carlson
Regrets: Heather Ragot, Loralie Friesen **Guests:** Betty Jubinville, Gord Shawcross, Tara Brousseau Snider

1. Call to Order: Greetings/Vision Statement:

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

2. Devotion: Bill

3. Approval of October 21 minutes: Moved to be accepted by Leigh, seconded by Glenn

4. Church Groups:

· **Presentations**

Ministry & Personnel - Tara Brousseau Snider: The M&P Group will endeavour to have a rotating representative at each Council meeting going forward. Meetings with staff are underway, as are the mandated background/police checks. A safe has been purchased in which to store M & P documentation, and only M & P personnel will have access to the safe (the key was given to Tara). M & P would very much like another member for their Group, preferably someone with human resources experience.

Stewardship - Glenn: The Pledge Campaign for 2026 will be announced this coming Sunday morning, November 23 by Bill. Glenn will include a note in the E-News this week. Bill has finalized the compiling of individual contributions for the current year and prepared the Pledge packages. A total of 220 packages are being prepared to be mailed out following the kick-off on Sunday. The Stewardship Groups approach this year is to be much more specific in terms of the financial picture at St. Andrews. It is noted that 38 of 241 families on the mailing list contribute 80% of offerings. The UCC recommends that 92% of revenue should be from offerings, and we are at approximately 52% with special events and rentals making up a large portion of St Andrew's revenue.

· **Other Group Liaison Updates** – See also #7 below for thoughts from Fellowship and P&A groups

· **December Presentation – Foundation**

5. Minister's Report (Karen) The days are very busy and exciting especially as new Youth activities are scheduled and new families are noted to be attending.

6. Landscaping Proposal Update (Rob): This project is not a part of the 2025 budget, and given other financial priorities for the Church the decision was made not to proceed.

7. Post-Church Events Clean-up (Rob): Arising from clean-up requirements under the Daycare lease following the Harvest Supper and other Church-sponsored events. Fellowship Group contributes a great deal of effort to many events through the year, but the cleanup should not be their responsibility. There is a need for the Church to be clean and ready for the Daycare following events, and it was determined that for Church-sponsored events Cece should be approached to see whether appropriate arrangements could be made with her (for third party events they are responsible for clean-up).

8. Succession Planning (Rob): With the AGM quickly approaching, the nomination committee will start their work for finding new members of Council. At least 3 vacancies will need to be filled for next year, as well as the position of Chair.

9. Visioning (Loralie): Discussion postponed until next month when Loralie returns.

10. Treasurer's Report (Bill) Most of the financials are running roughly on budget. Givings are noticeably down with the recent death of a number of members and there is an expected operating deficit at year's end of approximately \$30000. The raising of funds required for the repair of the lighting behind the sanctuary stain-glass windows is nearly complete and the work will begin as soon as possible. The Harvest Supper was a success again this year with a net profit of approximately \$6300.

11. Other Business: None

· **November Report to Congregation:** Not necessary as Bill will be presenting the Stewardship campaign.

· **December Greeters:** Each week will have members of Council greeting on Sunday mornings in the month of December.

· **Other – December post-service coffee** - Leigh

12. Next Meeting:

· **Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 7:30**

· **Devotion: Karen**

· **Report to Congregation: Heather**

13. Adjournment at 10:00pm